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58. LOGNOTE - Executive and Planning Staff, 2 July 1982

[redacted] After receiving the attached letter from [redacted] of the North Atlantic Assembly, I telephoned Mr. Peter Abbruzzese (225-2753), who, according to Legislative Liaison, is a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee staff. I asked if he could clarify for me the nature of the North Atlantic Assembly and why its Subcommittee on the Free Flow of Information and People wanted to visit FBIS. The North Atlantic Assembly, he explained, is the parliamentary organization of the NATO countries, but it has no legal connection with the alliance. There are 173 members who form study committees to examine issues of interest to the parliaments of the NATO countries. The Subcommittee on Free Flow... is coming to New York and Washington in September with plans to visit UN human rights organizations; ICA, VOA, RFE/RL, etc. as part of their current study project.

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I said that the letter's reference to "... policy planning regarding broadcasting to Europe..." and the list of the group's other planned stops made me suspect that perhaps some confusion existed about the functions of FBIS. Mr. Abbruzzese was aware that FBIS collected information from the media but did not broadcast. He agreed that the letter should not have been sent to FBIS and did not know [redacted] planned to do so. He promised that he would see to it that [redacted] drop FBIS from the itinerary. Mr. Abbruzzese said that we could consider the matter closed. [redacted]

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(cc: D/FBIS, E&PS Chrono, LRB-Other non-gov't liaison, Office of External Affairs/Legislative Liaison Division)

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23 June 1982

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to you on behalf of [redacted] the
Sub-Committee on the Free Flow of Information and People of the North
Atlantic Assembly.

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Members of the Sub-Committee have expressed their strong wish
to meet members of your staff to be briefed on your policy planning regarding
broadcasting to Europe in general and, in particular, towards countries
of the Warsaw Pact bloc.

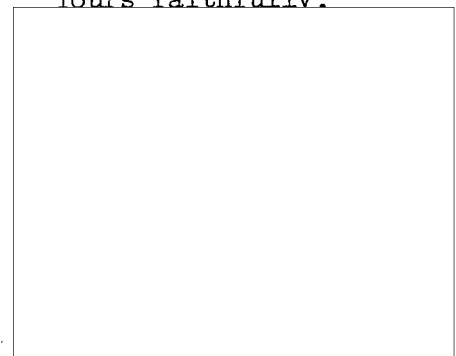
The Sub-Committee will be in Washington from 22 - 24 September
and we sincerely hope that your schedule will allow us to meet with you.

Mr. Peter Abbruzzese, Professional Staff Consultant for the
House of Representatives and Secretary of the American delegation to the
North Atlantic Assembly, will be in touch with your office regarding the
proposed schedule of our visit.

With many thanks for your cooperation,

Yours faithfully,

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